



CHRISTLIKENESS

Christlikeness

Why has God saved us? So that we could have fellowship with Him? Yes. So that we would glorify Him here on earth? Of course. So that we would be a witness and ambassador for Him? Definitely. But He has us here on this planet for a very brief period of time for another purpose too. The first part of Romans 8:29 touches on it: "For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son..." Here it teaches that He chose and saved us so we would become like Jesus. This is what sanctification is all about, day by day gradually becoming less and less like the world, and more and more like the Savior. God is preparing us to spend eternity with Him, but know for sure that He will change us, right here and right now, if we will only let Him.

I. What is Christlikeness?

The growing process of a Christian's attitude (inner life) and character (outer life) toward the example of Christ through the life changing power of the Holy Spirit. (Gal 5:16)

II. Why be Christlike?

1. What do we learn about the Christian life in the following passages?
 - 2Cor. 5:17
 - Gal. 2:20
 - 1Peter 1:15, 16

2. Why do you think Paul had the attitude toward Christ that he did in Phil. 3:7-10?

3. Why do you think Paul was so concerned about the lifestyle of the believer at Colossae as mentioned in Col. 3:1-11?

III. How to do it?

1. Select a character trait to work on.
2. Have a working definition of the trait (see Scriptures and dictionary).
3. Determine to pray for the attitude and the action.
4. Depend on the strength of the Holy Spirit.
5. Have a friend hold you accountable.
6. Memorize key passages on these traits.
7. Apply trait to all areas of life.

IV. Areas to work on:

1. Selfless (Phil. 2:3-4; James 3:16)
2. Servanthood (Mark 10:45; Luke 17:7-10; 6)
3. Love (1Cor. 13:4-8; 1John 3:16-18)
4. Self-Control (Gal. 5:23; 1Cor. 9:24-27)
5. Purity (Matt. 5:27-28; 2Tim. 2:20-22)
6. Faithfulness (Luke 16:10; Matt. 25:14-30; 2Tim. 2:2)
7. Holiness (1Peter 1:15-16; 2Cor. 7:1)
8. Humility (Phil. 2:3-4; 1Peter 5:5-6)

V. Action steps

Which areas do you want to start working on?

VI. Building Christ-like Character

Compassion

Col 3:12
Exodus 34:6
1 Peter 3:8
James 5:11
Eph. 4:32
Rom 9:15
Mark 6:34

Contentment

Prov 19:23
Phil 4:11
1 Tim 6:6
Heb 13:5 1
Luke 3:14
1 Tim 6:8
Phil 4:12

Self-Control

Prov 29:11
Rom 8:6 1
Prov 16:32
Cor 7:9
1 Thess 4:4
Rom 8:8
Cor 7:37

Gentleness

Prov 15:1
Cor 4:21
1 Tim. 3:3
Phil 4:5
Prov 25:15
Eph 4:2
Col 3:12

Honesty

Lev 19:11
2 Kings 12:15
Heb 13:18
Rom 12:17
Prov 12:17
Phil 4:8
Ps 15:1-2

Holiness

Rom 6:19 2
1 Cor 1:30
Heb 12:14
1 Tim 2:2
Rom 6:22
2 Cor 7:1
Heb 12:10

Humility

Chron 7:14
Ps 25:9
Eph 4:2
1 Pet 5:5
1 Cor 4:7
Is 66:2
James 4:10

Joy

Ps 66:1
Rom 15:13
1 Thess 2:19
James 1:2
Prov 12:20
Gal 5:22
Heb 12:2

Faithfulness

Josh 24:14
Ps 89:14
Prov 3:3
Prov 20:6
Lam 3:23
Gal 5:22
Rev 13:10

Kindness

Jer 9:24
2 Cor 6:6
Col 3:12
2 Pet 1:7
Rom 11:22
Gal 5:22
Titus 3:4

Love

Lev 19:18
John 14:21
Rom 12:9
Gal 5:22
Deut 7:9
John 15:12
1 Cor 13:1-13

Diligence

Heb 6:11
Prov 12:24
Prov 13:4
1 Tim 4:15
Prov 10:4
Prov 12:27
Prov 21:5

Patience

Prov 19:11
Gal 5:22
Col 3:12
Eph 4:2
2 Cor 6:6
Col 1:11
1 Tim 1:16

Servanthood

Matt 20:26
Rom 1:1
Col 1:23
Luke 17:10
Matt 25:21
Phil 2:7
2 Tim 2:24

Submissiveness

1 Tim 2:11
1 Pet 3:1
Eph 5:21
Jas 4:7
Jas 3:17
Rom 13:1
Heb 13:17

Tongue

Prov 10:19
Jas 1:26
Jas 1:19
Ps 51:14
Prov 21:23
Jas 3:5 8
Ps 71:24

Thankfulness

Heb 12:28
Ps 7:17
Phil 4:6
Col 3:15
Col 2:7
1 Thess 5:18
1 Tim 4:3

Trust

John 14:1
Ps 112:7
Rom 10:11
Prov 11:13
Prov 13:17
Ps 28:7
1 Tim 3:11

Quietness

Eccl 9:17
1 Thess 4:11
1 Pet 3:4
Isa 32:17
Amos 5:13
1 Tim 2:2
Isa 30:15

Teachability

Prov 9:8
Prov 12:15
Prov 15:22
Acts 18:11
Prov 15:31
Prov 26:12
2 Tim 2:7